

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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DEPT FOR ARA - ASST. SECY TODMAN

E.O. 11652 NA
TAGS: ECLA, EGEN, GU, CU
SUBJ: ECLA: STATEMENT BY CUBAN DELEGATION

1. CUBAN DEL DELIVERED MINISTERIAL STATEMENT TUESDAY AFTERNOON WHICH INCLUDED A LIBERAL DOSE OF MARXIST RHETORIC AND AN IMPASSIONED ATTACK ON THE U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS STAND. HUMAN RIGHTS MATERIAL WAS APPARENTLY ADDED IN RESPONSE TO U.S. DEL AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S STATEMENT TUESDAY MORNING. THIS ANTAGONISTIC CUBAN LINE SEEMS TO BE INTENDED TO INFLUENCE LATIN AMERICAN NATION'S, REACTION TO THE POLICIES OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND PARTICULARLY TO AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S SPEECH. THE CUBANS IN EFFECT ARE SAYING "DON'T LISTEN TO THE U.S." REPORT ON CUBAN'S SPEECH WILL PROBABLY APPEAR IN WEDNESDAY NEW YORK TIMES AND MAY THEREFORE BE SUBJECT OF QUESTIONS AT NOON BRIEFING.

2. THE SPEECH AS ORIGINALLY DRAFTED WAS A STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR THE CEGAN REPORT AND A HIGHLY UPBEAT RECITATION OF THE RECENT PERFORMANCE OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY, SPRINKLED WITH TRADITIONAL ATTACKS ON IMPERIALISM, COLONIALISM, NEO-COLONIALISM, MARXISM, ETC.
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IT DID, HOWEVER, INCLUDE A COMPARISON OF THE HISTORICAL ROLE OF SPAIN AND THE CURRENT ROLE OF THE U.S. AS THE PRIMARY OPPONENTS OF PROGRESS IN LATIN AMERICA.

3. THE THREE PAGES ADDED TODAY WERE MUCH MORE ANTAGONISTIC AND RECEIVED A VERY EMOTIONAL DELIVERY. THEY INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING PASSAGES (INFORMAL TRANSLATION):

" THE IRREVERSIBLE ADVANCE OF SOCIALISM FACES THE GREATEST ENEMY OF HUMANITY: IMPERIALISM, CAUSE OF EXPLOITATION AND POVERTY, ALLIED AND SUSTAINED BY COLONIALISM, BY NEO-COLONIALISM, NAZISM, APARTHEID AND ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION, OPPRESSION, AND REPRESSION WHICH STILL EXIST IN THE WORLD...."; AND "THOSE WHO PRESENT THEMSELVES AS LEADERS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ARE PRECISELY THE REAL CAUSE OF THE GREATEST ILLS FROM WHICH HUMANITY SUFFERS AND WHICH ARE THE RESULT OF THE PRACTICE OF COLONIALISM, NEO-COLONIALISM, AND THE EXPLOITATION TO WHICH WE HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED.

"HOWEVER, A MATTER SO IMPORTANT CANNOT BE PRESENTED AS ONE MORE POLITICAL SLOGAN: IT WAS ONLY A FEW YEARS AGO WE WERE PRESENTED WITH THE ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS IN THE SAME WAY."
BOSTER

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